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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/934,441	08/21/2001	Ronald E. Starr	069806-001	5313

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EXAMINER

TO, BAOQUOC N

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2172

DATE MAILED: 12/03/2003

5

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/934,441

Applicant(s)

STARR, RONALD E.

Examiner

Baoquoc N To

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4 . 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-28 are pending in this application.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 08/01/01. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stack (US. Patent No. 5,815,717).

Regarding on claim 1 and 15, Stack teaches a computerized method for developing records management system customized to meet the ongoing information needs of users of a given enterprise application, the method comprising:

Providing a plurality of control table (control table 64) configurable by an expert in the enterprise application (expert system), with a first set of the control tables being configurable to define system-level operational functions (col. 5, lines 40-45), with a

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second set of control tables being configurable to define a selected input medium for uploading information into a repository database (input the data from user) (col. 5, lines 32-39), and with a third set of control tables being configurable to define a selected output medium for downloading information from the database (subordinate output program type) (col. 5, lines 64-66) ;

Providing an input/output device (pop-display prompts the user input) for accessing the plurality of control tables (col. 21, lines 14-20);

Populating each control table with prescribed rules provided by the expert through the input/output device for invoking a respective action in response to a user-triggered event (user input sufficiently qualify the desired function of the selected feature packet) (col. 21, lines 14-20); and

Stack does not explicitly teach processing the control tables to construct a respective record yet object array corresponding to the rules provided by the expert to build in response to each constructed record set object array a customer records management system, with the system being accessible by the user through the selected input and output mediums in accordance with the prescribed rules provided by the expert. However, Stack teaches, "as features packets and functional logic are evaluated by this expert system, reference is made to a control table 64 that, in combination with rule table 62, operates as an abstract, multi level data look-up facility utilized in support of generating definite application sequences" (col. 24, lines 30-35). This teaches the control tables 64 constructing the application sequence (object array) by the rule table 62. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the

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art at the time of the invention was made to including the control tables 64 to construct the application sequence using rules would allow the program sequence in according to the order of created.

Regarding on claims 2 and 16, Stack teaches the first control table set configurable to define the selected system-level operational functions comprises a menu control table (entire program) including menu and a plurality of sub-menu (subprogram) choices invocable by a respective user-triggered event (col. 8, lines 19-36).

Regarding on claims 3 and 17, Stack teaches the first control table set configurable to define the selected system-level operational functions further comprises a menu tree control table including a menu tree and a plurality of tree nodes invocable by a respective user-triggered event (col. 11, lines 29-45).

Regarding on claims 4 and 18, Stack teaches the menu control table is linkable to a search control table configured to define searchable keys for retrieving information for the database (col. 26, lines 65-67).

Regarding on claims 5 and 19, Stack teaches the menu control table is linkable to a data report control table configurable to activate a reporting wizard (reporting) for generating reports from the database (col. 8, lines 24-37).

Regarding on claims 6 and 20, Stack teaches the menu control table is linkable to menu tree control table including a menu tree and a plurality of tree nodes invocable by a respective user-triggered event (col. 8, lines 25-35).

Regarding on claims 7 and 21, Stack teaches the menu control table is linkable to an executable control table configurable to interface with programs external to the customized records management system (evaluation) (col. 8, lines 25-35).

Regarding on claims 8 and 22, Stack teaches the second control table set configurable to define the selected input medium for uploading information into the repository database comprises a form control table for gathering input data (col. 26, lines 65-67).

Regarding on claims 9 and 23, Stack teaches the form control table is selected from the group consisting of a form display control table, a data tree control table, a dropdown control table, a keypad control table, and a coversheet control table (col. 5, lines 60-67).

Regarding on claims 10 and 24, Stack teaches the third control table set configurable to define the selected output medium for downloading information from the repository database comprises a form display control table for displaying output data (col. 5, lines 60-67).

Regarding on claims 11 and 25, Stack teaches a data analysis control table configurable to perform predefined analysis on selected data in the database (col. 5, lines 60-67).

Regarding on claims 12 and 26, Stack teaches the user-triggered event comprises a computer-detectable interface event selected from the group consisting of a computer mouse event, a keyboard event, a pointer event, and a user-voice utterance event (plurality of input event) (col. 3, lines 44-47).

Regarding on claims 13 and 27, Stack teaches the customized records system is rebuildable to include any new customization as may be required by the ongoing information needs of the enterprise application based on any new prescribed rules provided by the expert to repopulate the control tables (col. 24, lines 24-52).

Regarding on claims 14 and 28, Stack teaches the customized records system is accessible to users and experts via a communication network selected from the group consisting of a local area network, a wide area network, an intranet, and the Internet (col. 6, lines 1-6).

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Baoquoc N. To whose telephone number is (703) 305-1949 or via e-mail BaoquocN.To@uspto.gov. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Y. Vu can be reached at (703) 305-4393.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:


Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231.

The fax numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follow:

- (703) 746-7238 [After Final Communication]
- (703) 746-7239 [Official Communication]
- (703) 746-7240 [Non-Official Communication]

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to:

Crystal Park II
2121 Crystal Drive
Arlington, VA 22202
Fourth Floor (Receptionist).


SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Baoquoc N. To
Nov 28, 2003